



**Rural
Development**

United States Department
of Agriculture

5975 Lakeside Boulevard
Indianapolis, Indiana 46278

Phone: 317.290.3100
TDD: 317.290.3343
Fax: 317.290.3095
www.rurdev.usda.gov/in/index.html

News Release

For Immediate Release
Contact: Kelly M. Barmann

STEUBEN LAKES REGIONAL WASTE DISTRICT AWARDED MAJOR USDA FUNDING

Angola (#04-09; 12-4-2003): USDA Rural Development announced today that the Steuben Lakes Regional Waste District (RWD) has been awarded a \$29,329,000 low interest loan. This funding will be used to support the construction of a new \$41.4 million waste treatment plant and a sanitary sewer collection system. This is the largest single funding award for infrastructure ever made in Indiana by USDA Rural Development.

At a gathering today to finalize the funding, Gregg Delp, Community Programs Manager for USDA Rural Development, presented a check for the funding to Dave Boudia, President, Steuben Lakes RWD Board of Trustees.

The construction of the treatment plant involves a 1 million gallon per day wastewater treatment plant, two-day polishing pond, ultraviolet disinfecting system, and an administration and laboratory building. The collection system consists of approximately 80 miles of forcemain, 3000 residential grinder pump stations, 21 main pumping stations with standby power generators at the major lift stations, and 348 air release valve stations. This infrastructure project will benefit 3298 residential and business users.

Commenting on the project, Tim Frederick, Steuben Lakes RWD Superintendent, said, "The project planning began in January 1997. Since that time the District has spent many hours planning and developing a sanitary sewer system that will give reliable service for many years to come. I am glad to see the project get started!"

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Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., 20250*

USDA Rural Development has been an active partner with rural communities and residents in Steuben County for many years. Since 1993, USDA Rural Development has invested over \$61 million in Steuben County helping limited income families buy homes, financing the maintenance of rental properties, funding infrastructure and community facilities, and assisting rural businesses get started or expand through guaranteed loans.

Delp commented, “USDA Rural Development is proud to be a partner with Steuben Lakes RWD on this very significant infrastructure project. It will enhance the economic vitality of the area as well protect the physical health of residents. Congratulations on making this important investment in Steuben County’s future.”

Single family home loans, rural rental housing, water and waste water disposal system funding, business and industry loans, and community facility loans and grants are financial resources available from USDA Rural Development. Questions concerning USDA Rural Development services in this area can be directed to USDA Rural Development, 104 East Park Drive, Albion, IN 46701-1437; phone 260-636-7682, extension 4.